





IT WOULD
SEEM THE
GOOD
MINUCIUS
HAS...



MANAGED
TO DEFEAT
HANNIBAL'S
ARMY.

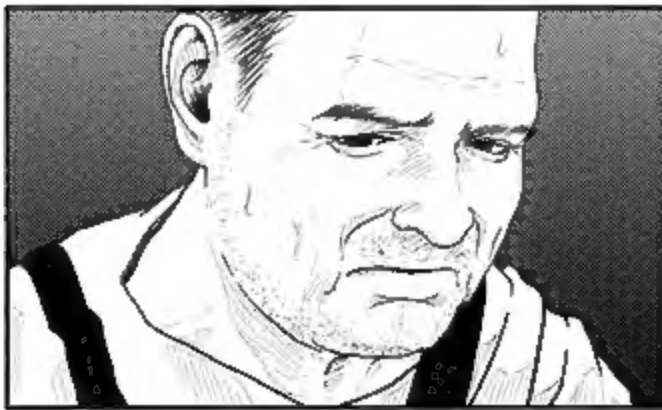
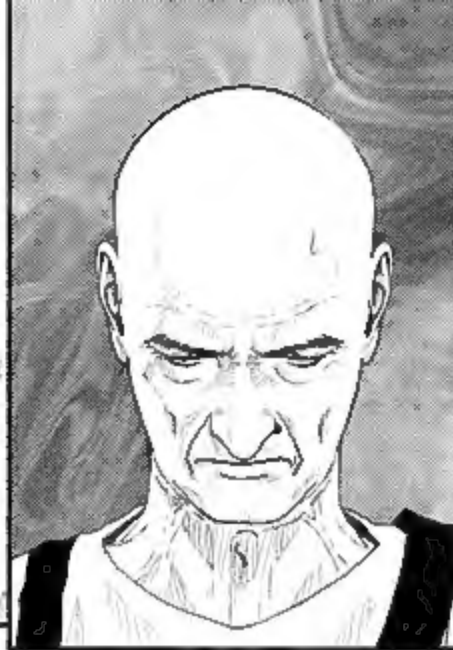
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CHAPTER 19



PATRICIANS AND PLEBS







AGAINST
A MAN IN
THE PRIME OF
HIS LIFE WHO
HAS MANAGED
TO BRING US
RESULTS THE
VERY MOMENT
HE WAS
GRANTED
POWER.

ON ONE
HAND, WE
HAVE A
WEAK AND
INDECISIVE
OLD MAN...

WHO,
THOUGH
COSTING
US MANY
SACRIFICES,
HAS YET TO
ACHIEVE ANY
TANGIBLE
RESULT,



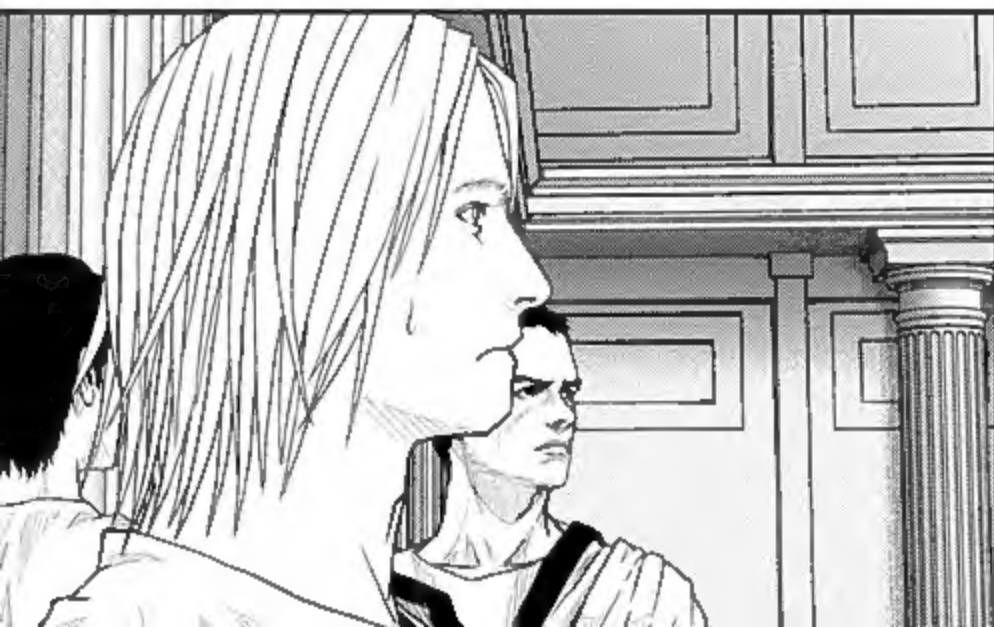
THEN QUITE
HONESTLY,
IT WOULDN'T
EVEN BE A
COMPETITION.



IF WE
HAD TO
CHOOSE
ONE OF
THE TWO,

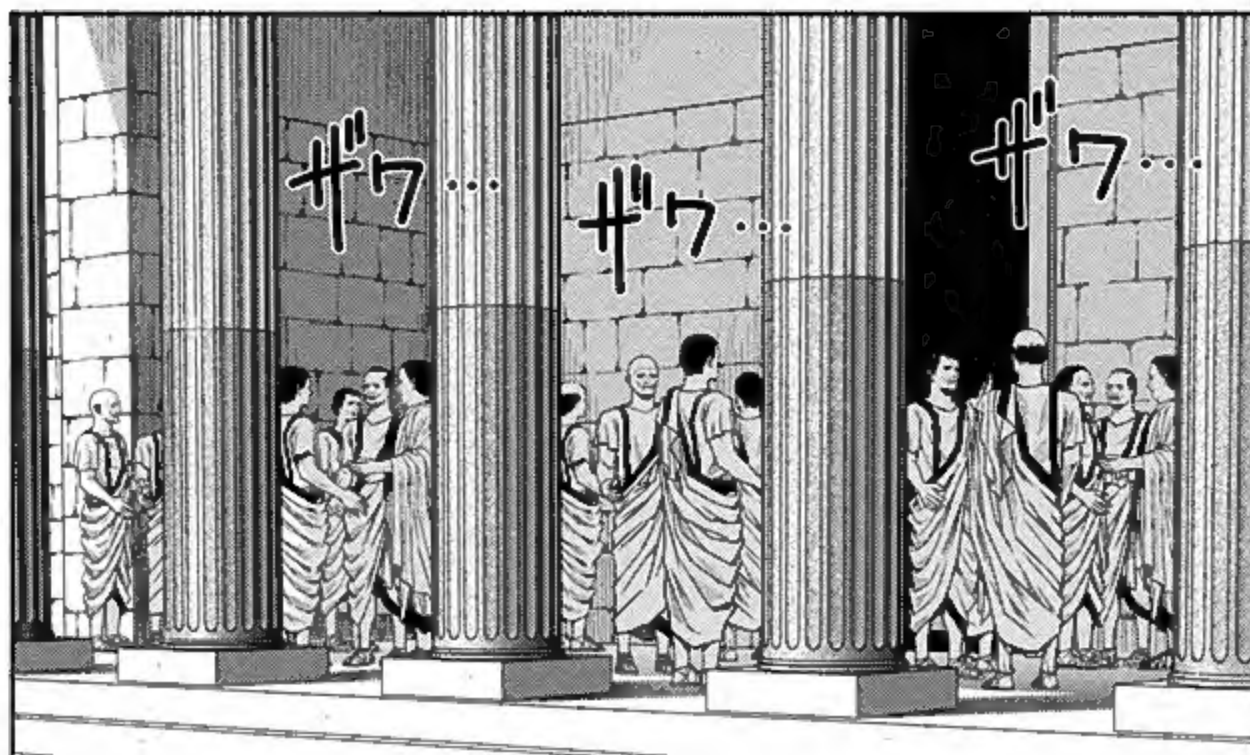


IT
CANNOT
BE
HELPED...



IS THIS...
THE WILL
OF THE
SENATE?







IT'S TRUE
THAT THIS
ALL SEEMS
FAR TOO
GOOD TO BE
A SIMPLE
COINCIDENCE.

THIS IS
THE BEST
SITUATION
HE COULD
HOPE FOR,
MAKING
ROME A
FAR EASIER
TARGET TO
DEAL WITH...

WITH THIS
SMALL DEFEAT,
HANNIBAL
WILL HAVE
SUCCESSFULLY
SPLIT HIS
ENEMY'S
LEADERSHIP
INTO TWO
FACTIONS...



ALL HIS
ACTIONS
THUS FAR
HAVE
CONCEALED
A DEEPER
MEANING
UNDERNEATH.



CERTAINLY,
THERE IS
A HIGH
CHANCE
THAT IS
THE CASE.

TL NOTE: CUNCTATOR - "DELAYER" IN LATIN



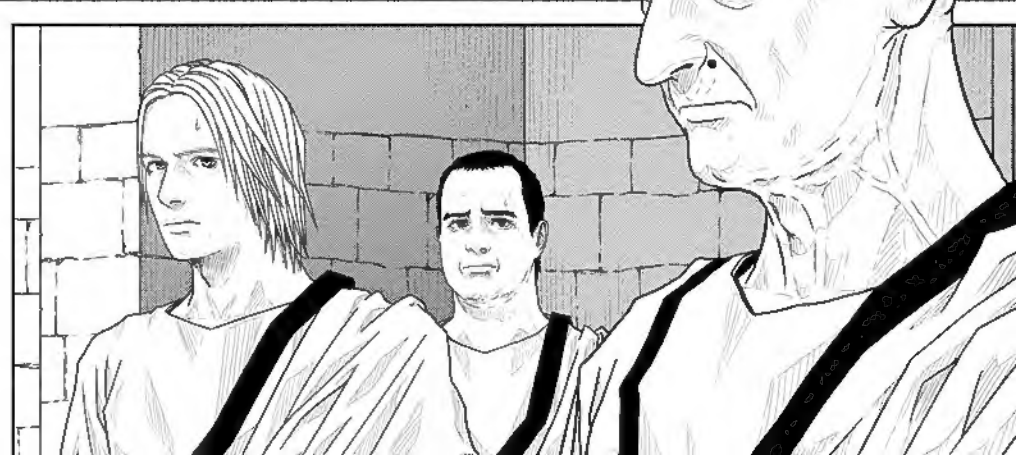
**CUNC-
TATOR!**



BUT FIRST,
WE MUST
RETURN TO
THE BATTLE-
FIELD...
OUR WORRIES
CAN COME
AFTER
THAT.

YES,
SIR...

**CUNC-
TATOR!**





...IT IS
INDEED.
JUST
AS YOU
IMAGINED,
SIR.



ONLY
THOSE
BELONGING
TO FABIUS
HAVE
REMAIN
UNHARMED.

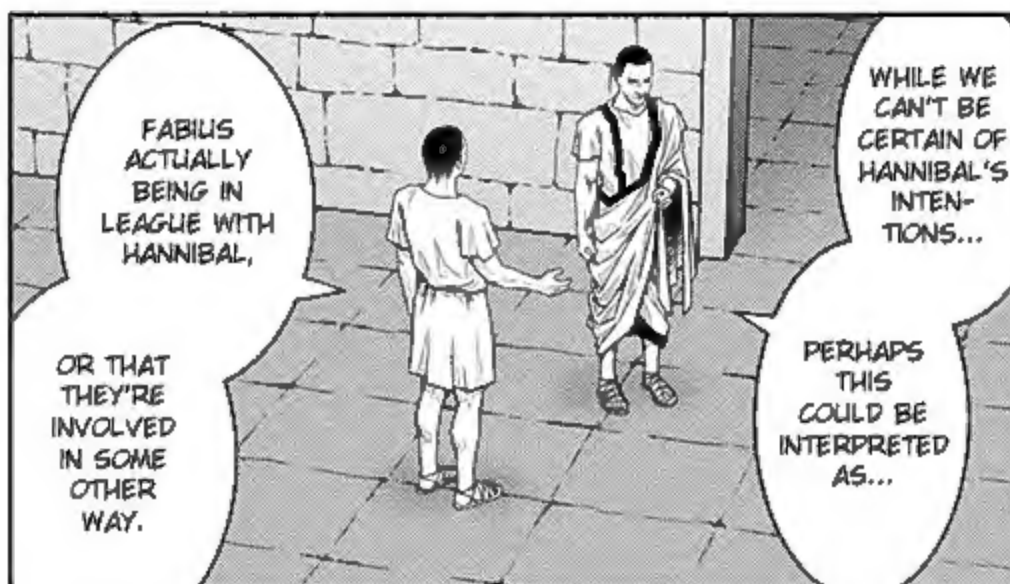
OUT OF
ALL THE
TERRI-
TORIES
STRUCK...



CUNC-
TATOR,
EH?...

QUITE THE
FITTING
NICKNAME...

MASTER
VARRO,
WE'VE WORD
FROM OUR
INVESTIGA-
TORS...



FABIUS
ACTUALLY
BEING IN
LEAGUE WITH
HANNIBAL,

OR THAT
THEY'RE
INVOLVED
IN SOME
OTHER
WAY.

WHILE WE
CAN'T BE
CERTAIN OF
HANNIBAL'S
INTEN-
TIONS...

PERHAPS
THIS
COULD BE
INTERPRETED
AS...



...WILL YOU
REPORT
THIS TO THE
SENATE?



OH
REALLY
NOW...

NICELY
DONE,
ALLUS.



I DOUBT
THEY WILL
BELIEVE FOR
EVEN AN
INSTANT THAT
FABIUS IS
ACTUALLY
OUR
ENEMY.

THE FOOLS
IN THE SENATE
STILL HAVE
YET TO LOSE
THEIR FAITH IN
FABIUS,

EVEN NOW,
THERE ARE
STILL SOME WHO
COMPLETELY
TRUST IN HIM.



ARE A
DIFFERENT
STORY.



BUT THE
PLEBS
HOW-
EVER...



YES,
SIR.

GO SPREAD
THE RUMOUR
WHILE FABIUS
RETURNS TO
THE FRONT.



CUNC-
TATORI!

CUNC-
TATORI!



WE CANNOT
LET THIS
GOD-GIVEN
OPPORTUNITY
SLIP AWAY...

200KM EAST OF ROME
MOUNT CALENE
ROMAN ARMY CAMP







THEY'RE
DRUNK ON
THEIR SMALL
VICTORY.

...

...THE
SOLDIERS
CERTAINLY
ARE IN
QUITE A
GOOD
MOOD...



YOUR
BEST
FRIEND
ACTUALLY
DID IT!

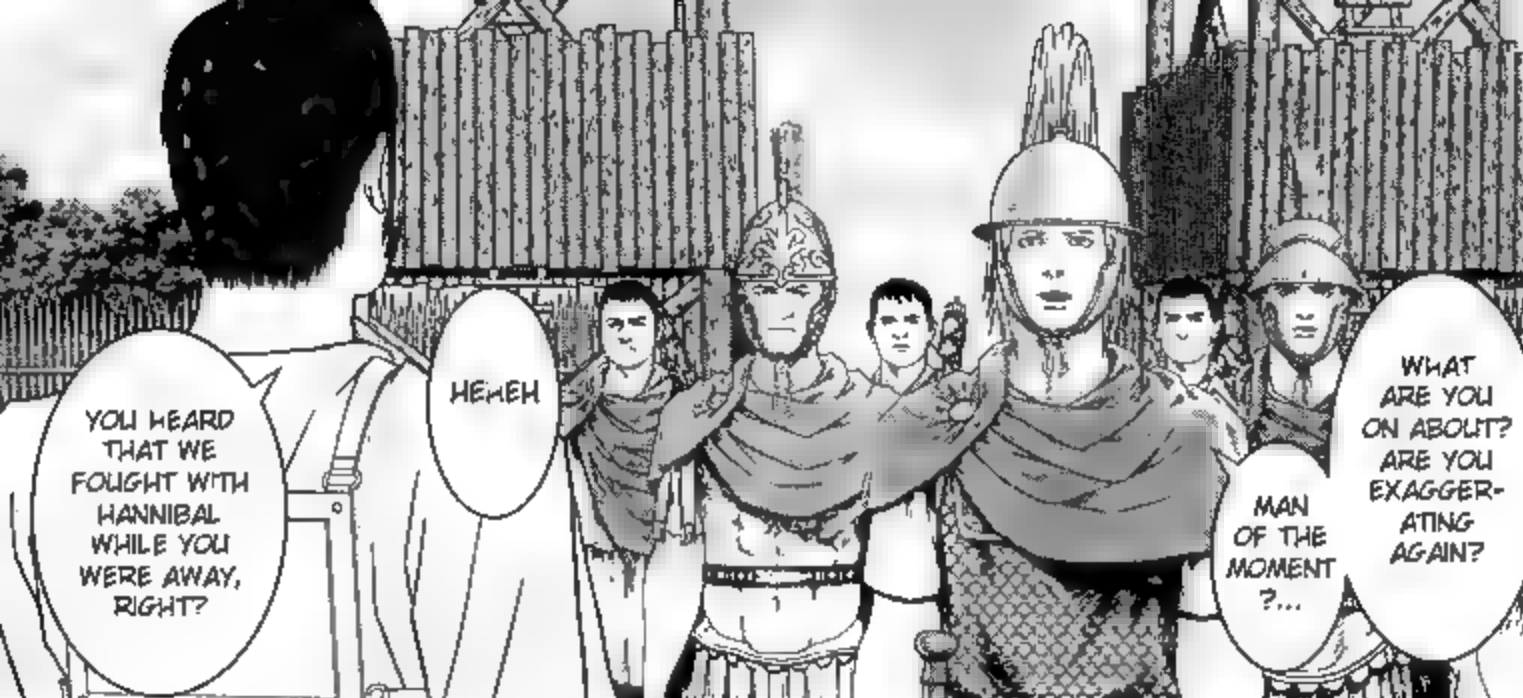
HEEYYYY,
SCIPIOOO!
GAIUS
DID IT!



ブーン

AHAHAHAH!

GAIUS IS
THE MAN OF
THE MOMENT!
HE'S THE
ONE WHO
TURNED THE
LAST BATTLE
INTO A
COMPLETE
VICTORY
FOR US!



YOU HEARD
THAT WE
FOUGHT WITH
HANNIBAL
WHILE YOU
WERE AWAY,
RIGHT?

HEHEH

MAN
OF THE
MOMENT
?...

WHAT
ARE YOU
ON ABOUT?
ARE YOU
EXAGGER-
ATING
AGAIN?

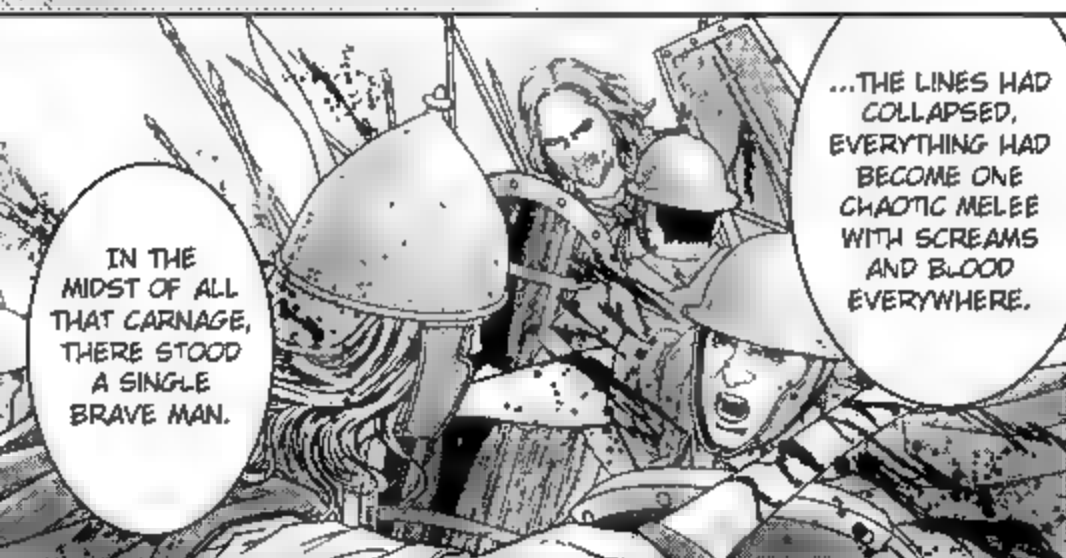


OH FOR
THE GODS'
SAKES, IF
YOU WANT TO
BRAG THEN
JUST SPIT
IT OUT
ALREADY.



BUT
Y'KNOW...
IT'S KINDA
EMBARRASSING
FOR ME TO
TALK ABOUT IT
MYSELF SO....

I BET
YOU WANNA
HEAR
ABOUT MY
EXPLOITS
DURING THAT
BATTLE,
HWH?



IN THE
MIDST OF ALL
THAT CARNAGE,
THERE STOOD
A SINGLE
BRAVE MAN.

...THE LINES HAD
COLLAPSED,
EVERYTHING HAD
BECOME ONE
CHAOTIC MELEE
WITH SCREAMS
AND BLOOD
EVERYWHERE.



ME.

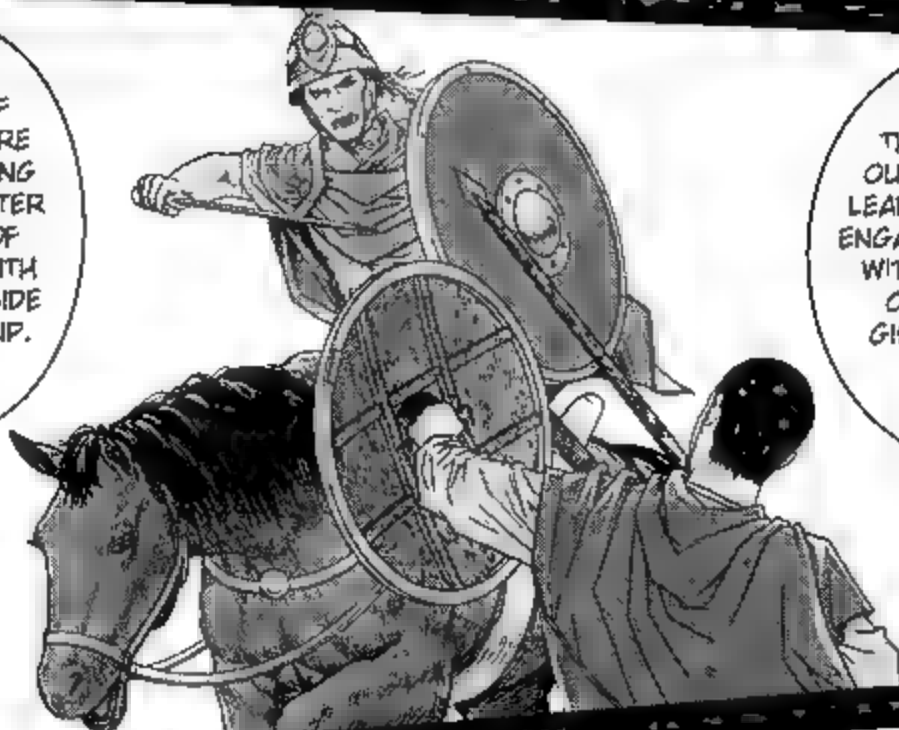


HEHEH, FINE.
IT ALL
HAPPENED
SOME TIME
AFTER THE
BATTLE BEGAN.
HOW LONG,
I CAN'T EVEN
SAY MSELF...



...AND WITH MY EAGLE EYE VISION, I MANAGED TO PICK OUT A CERTAIN SCENE AMONGST ALL THE CHAOS.

BOTH OF THEM WERE EXCHANGING ROUND AFTER ROUND OF BLOWS WITH NEITHER SIDE LETTING UP.



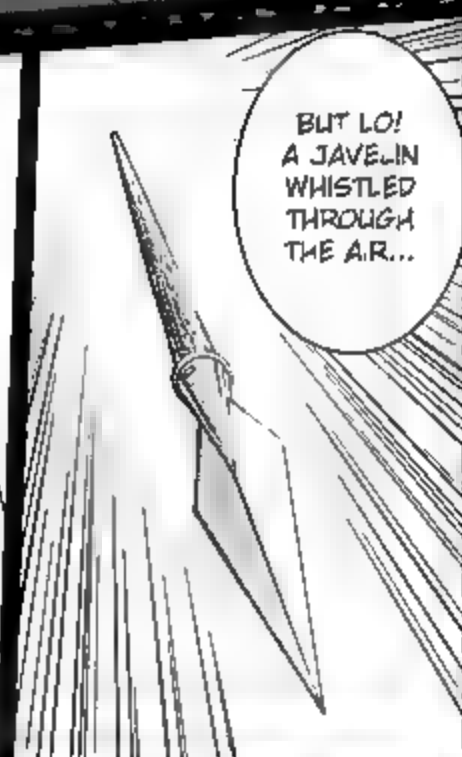
THE SIGHT OF OUR FEROCIOUS LEADER, MINUCIUS, ENGAGED IN BATTLE WITH THE ENEMY COMMANDER, GISCO, AND HIS SPEAR.

ALL OF A SLudden, MINUCIUS WAS CAUGHT UNBALANCED!



STRIKING MINUCIUS' STEED A FATAL BLOW...

BUT LO! A JAVELIN WHISTLED THROUGH THE AIR...





WHO ELSE
WAS THERE
TO SAVE THE
COMMANDER
IN HIS HOUR
OF PERIL
BUT ME!?



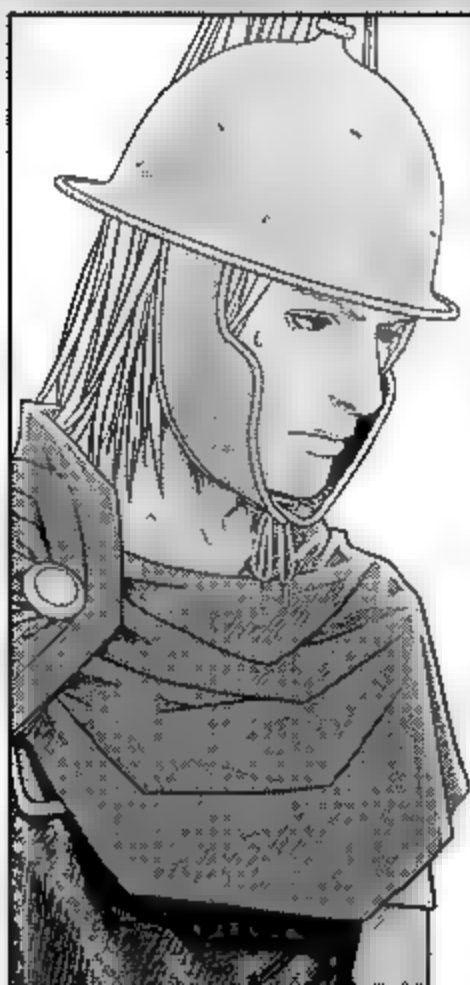
IN THAT
INSTANT,
I SIGHTED
MY AIM ON
GISCO AND
LET LOOSE
MY PILUM
WITH A
ROAR!





HAVING BEEN
STRUCK BY
TERROR BY MY
SKILLS, GISCO
IMMEDIATELY
BOLTED FOR
THE HILLS LIKE
A RABBIT.

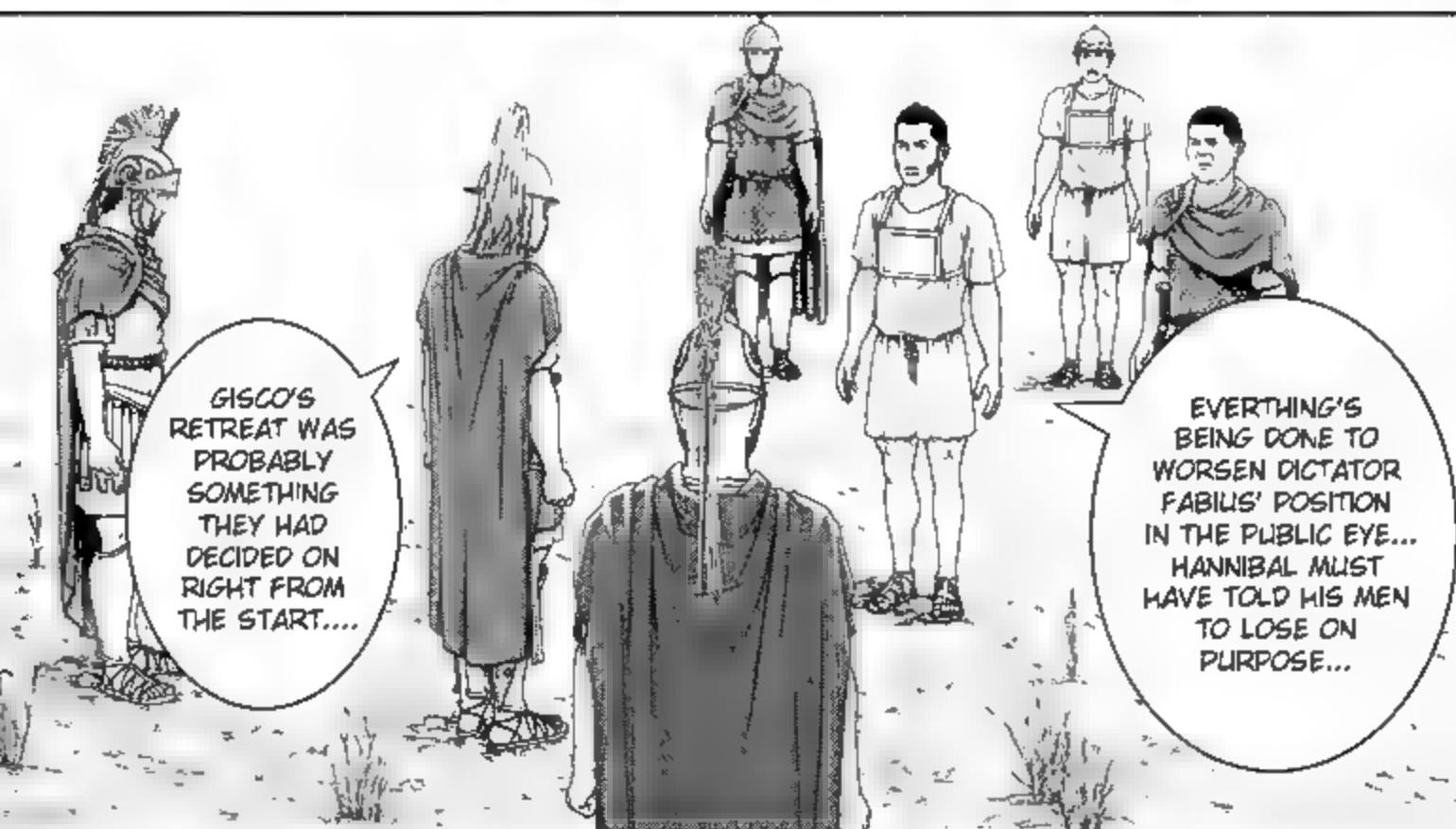
AS IF GUIDED
BY THE GODS
THEMSELVES,
MY PILLUM
WEDGED ITSELF
INTO GISCO'S
SHIELD!

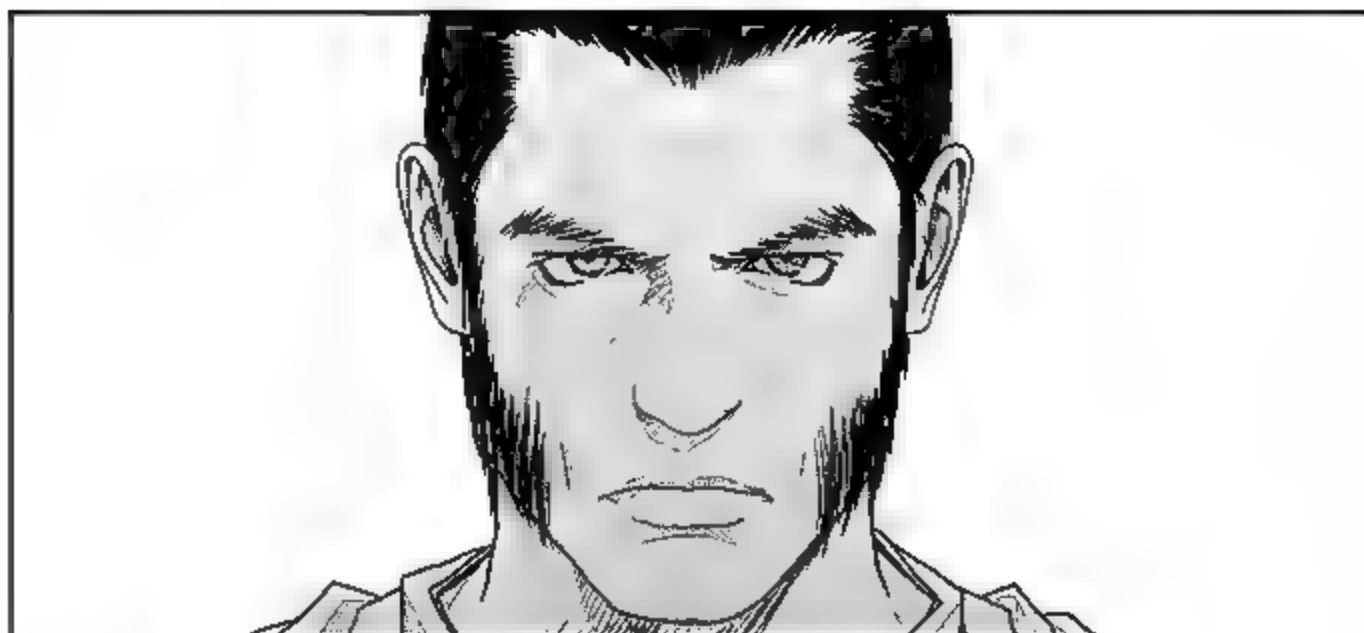


HOW'S
THAT
FOR YAI?

エヘン

THIS IS
SOMETHING
WORTHY
OF AN
AWARD,
SCPIO!





...
HAH?



DOES THE
THOUGHT OF
ME ACCOM-
PLISHING
SOMETHING
RUB YOU
THE WRONG
WAY, THAT
MUCH?

FINE,
FINE.
I GET IT.

SHEESH...
YOU REALLY
ARE SOME-
THING ELSE,
Y'KNOW.



ALWAYS
QUICK TO
MAKE FUN
OF ME JUST
'CAUSE YOU
HAPPEN TO
BE A LITTLE
SMARTER...

...THINKING
ON IT NOW,
YOU'RE
ALWAYS
LIKE THIS,
AREN'T
YA?



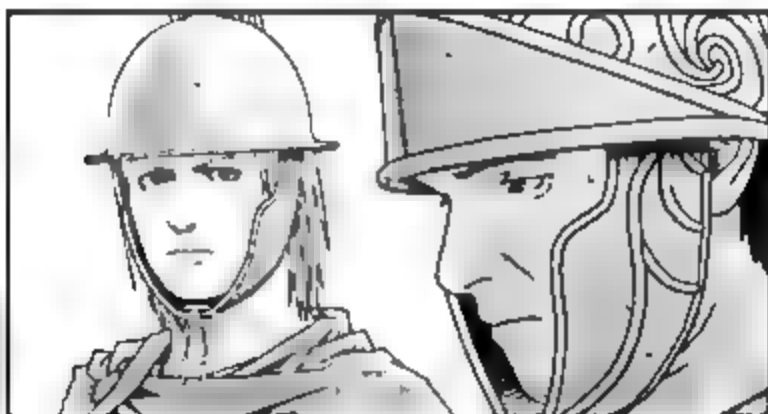
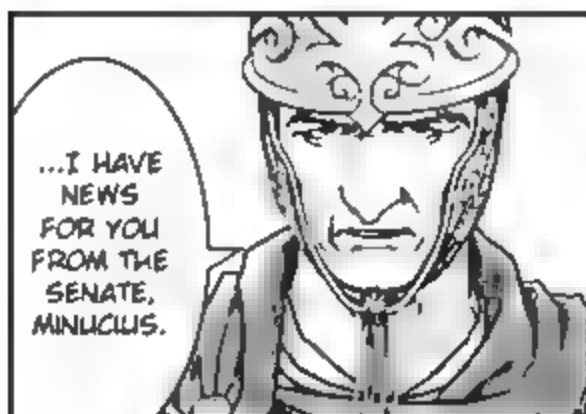
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT,
GALUS?...



IF YOU'RE
JEALOUS
THEN JUST
BE HONEST
AND SAY
YOU'RE
JEALOUS.









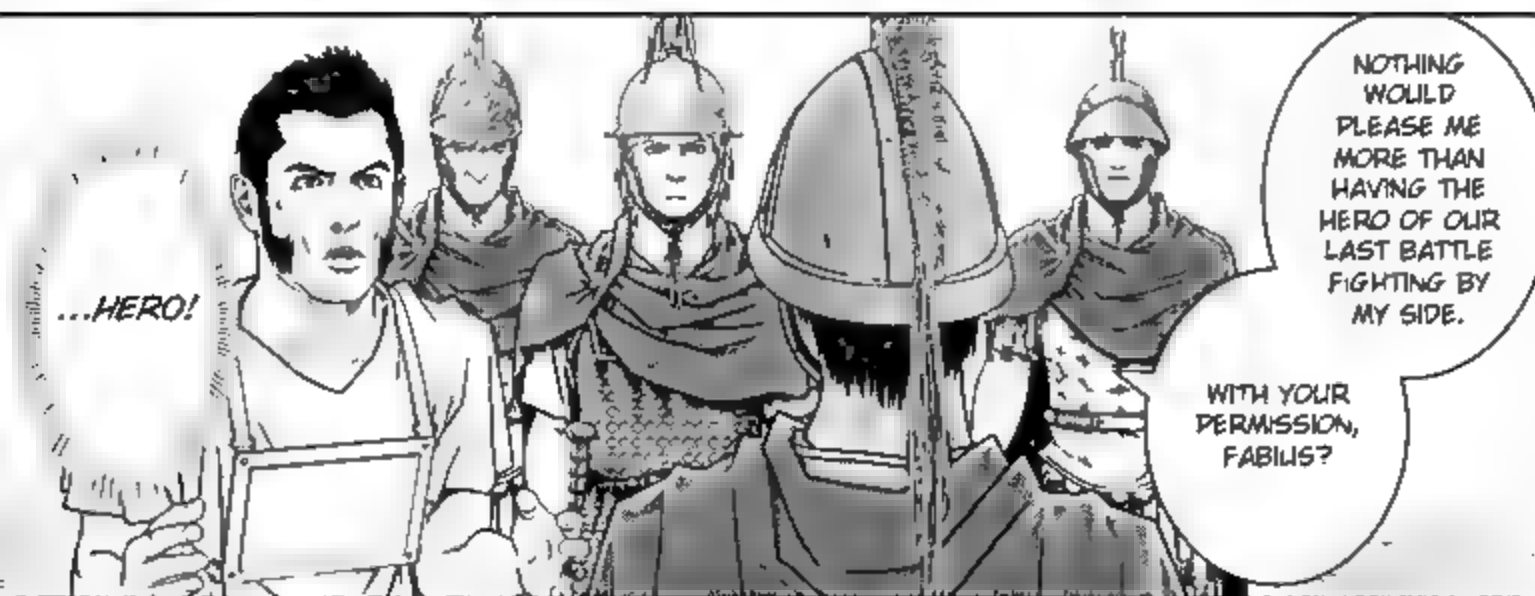
NOTE: WIKIPEDIA INDICATES THAT MINUCIUS ACTUALLY TOOK THE 2ND AND 3RD LEGIONS ALONG WITH 2 OTHER ALLIED LEGIONS. SEE [HTTPS://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/BATTLE_OF_GERONIUM](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Geronium)



C-CAN
I JOIN
YOU TOO,
SIR?



THE 1ST
AND 4TH...



...HERO!

NOTHING
WOULD
PLEASE ME
MORE THAN
HAVING THE
HERO OF OUR
LAST BATTLE
FIGHTING BY
MY SIDE.

WITH YOUR
PERMISSION,
FABIUS?



DO AS
YOU LIKE.



YES,
SIR!

IN THAT
CASE, GO
ROUND UP
THE MEN
FROM THE
1ST AND
4TH,

WE'RE
LEAVING
TO SET UP
OUR OWN
CAMP.



ホヤーン

...HERO!

...HERO!



SEE YA,
SCIPIO.



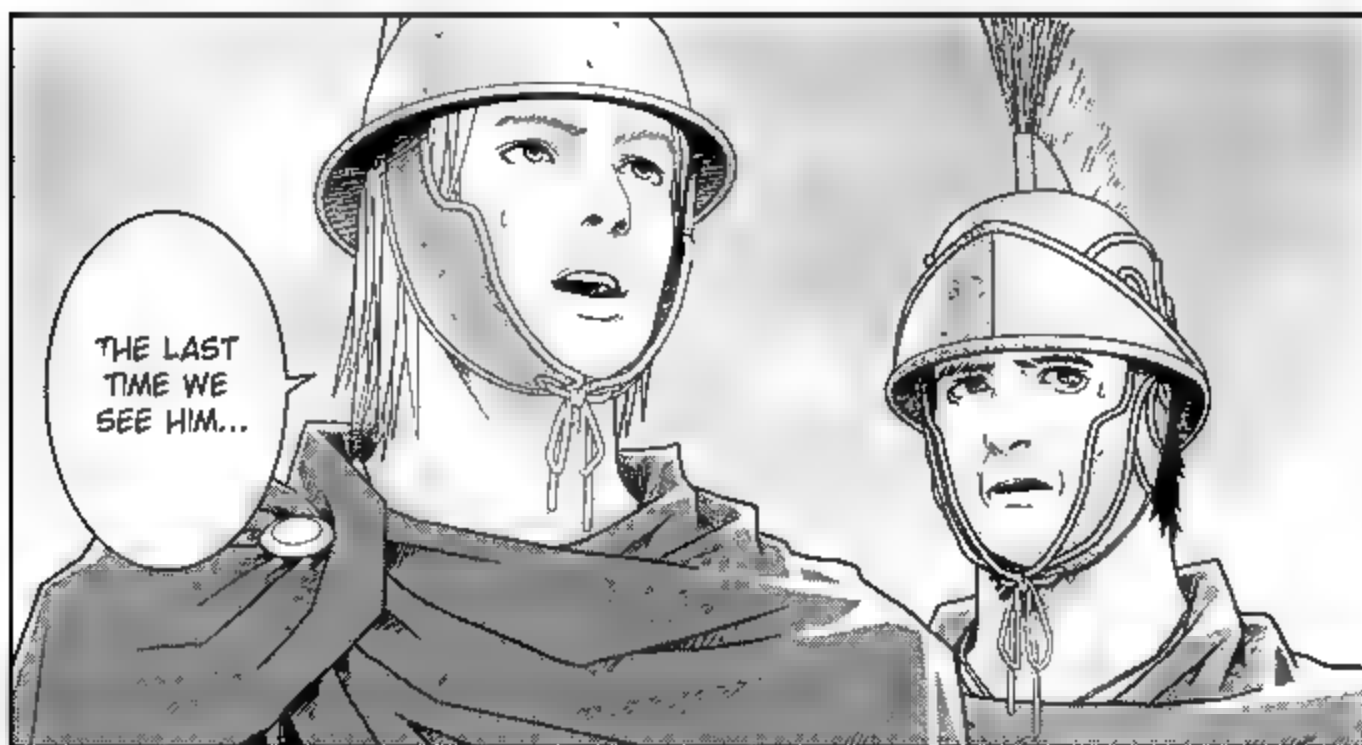
WITH THIS,
MINUCIUS WILL
MOST LIKELY NO
LONGER BE OF
ANY VALUE TO
HANNIBAL...



THE
LAST TIME
WE WILL
EVER LAY
EYES ON
HIM...

THIS
MAY
WELL
BE...







ア

ド・アストラ第3巻ご購入ありがとうございます
ございます。

今回ハンニバルがカリクラ峠の戦いで
火牛の計を用い、窮地を切り抜けましたが日
本でも似たような話がありましたね。木曾義
仲の倶利伽羅峠の戦いです。

中国の戦を下敷きにした創作なのではという
説もあるそうですが、どうなのでしょう。
同じ火牛の計でカリクラ峠とクリカラ峠：遙
か彼方ローマでのハンニバルの戦いが日本に
伝わって義仲が真似た、あるいは後世に創作
されたと考えるとロマンを感じますね。

まあ無関係でしょうけど。

縁を感じるのとはそれだけではなく、歴史物で
短期連載を念頭にひとつ描いてみないかと話
を頂いた時、実は義仲もリストに上げてたん
です。

ポエニ戦争については自分で上げたものの知
識がなく、勉強が大変そうなのでまだ楽そう
な義仲をやりたいと思ったのですが、あの時代のゴ
テゴテした装備を描く苦勞を考えるとこっち
やってて良かった！と痛感します。

本編ではファビウスがせっかく追い詰めたハン
ニバルを取り逃がしてしまいローマはハンニバ
ルとの正面对決へ大きく舵を切ることとなりま
した。

大きくうねる大衆を統制することはいつの時代
でも難しいものです。

この選択の先に破滅があるのは明白です。ファ
ビウスは、スキピオはこの窮地にどう立ち向か
うのでしょうか。そして調子乗りのガイウスの
運命やいかに!?

その前に巻末のおまけ漫画です。

これから本編を補完するエピソードや情報をお
まけとしてつけていこうと思います。

Staff「アシスタント五十音順」

あやたさん

神戸さん

なぎさん

望月さん

編集◎山内 智

単行本編集◎小林 潤

装丁◎成見 紀子

To be continued....

13 YEARS AGO
ROME

THE
BANQUET'S
STILL GOING,
SO TRY TO
MAKE DO
WITH THIS
FOR NOW.

SHARE IT
BETWEEN
THE TWO
OF YOU.

HERE
ARE SOME
GRAPE'S I
RECEIVED
AT THE
BANQUET
FOR MY
DAUGHTER'S
BIRTHDAY.

I TAKE THE
GRAPE'S
AND RUN
AWAY...

WHAT'S
THE MATTER,
GAIUS?
YOU'RE NOT
HAPPY WITH
HALF?

AWW,
WE HAVE
TO SPLIT
IT?

...HOW
ABOUT WE
PLAY A
GAME
THEN?

Intermission

ME → CAN RUN FAST
ME → WILL CATCH UP
ME → STEP ON SHADOW
ME → GET GRAPE'S

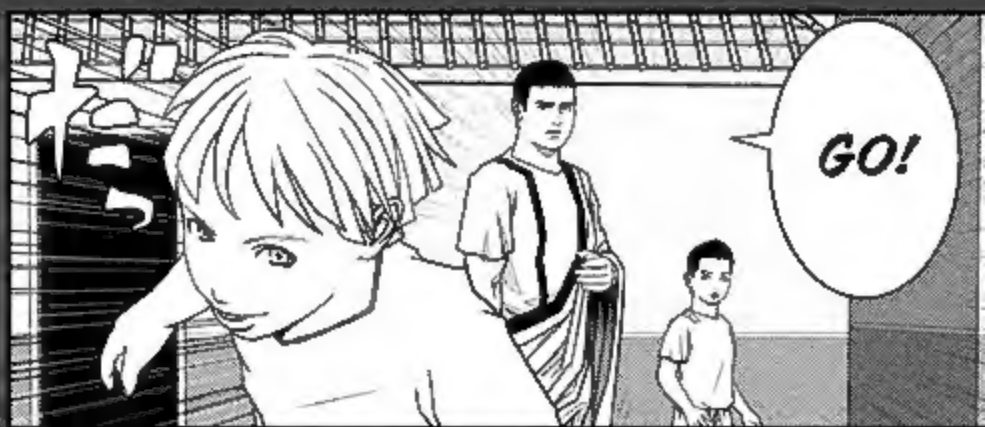
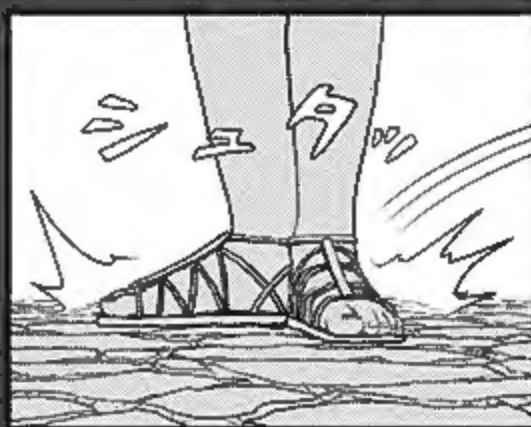
ME → EAT GRAPE'S
GRAPE'S → SWEET
ME → HAPPY
ME → HAPPY?

ME → HAPPY!

IF YOU CAN
CATCH ME
AND STEP
ON THE
GRAPE'S
SHADOW,

THEN I'LL
GIVE YOU
THE WHOLE
BUNCH.

...HUH?





NO
FAIR!
NO
FAIR!

もう、
もう、

THAT'S
NO FAIR,
SCIPIO!



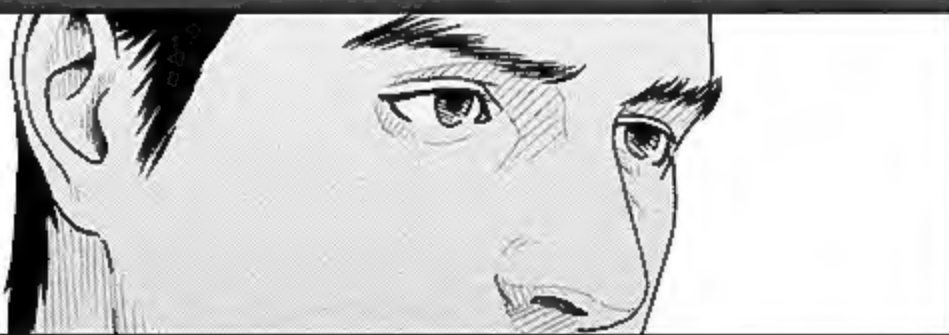
VERY
COMMEND-
ABLE
OF YOU,
SCIPIO.

IT IS THE
DUTY OF THE
PATRICIANS TO
SHARE THEIR
BOUNTY WITH
THE PLEBS.

...HUH?
REALLY!?

AW,
COME ON,
GAILUS.
DON'T NEED
TO CRY
ABOUT IT.

I'LL GIVE
YOU HALF.



NAH,
THAT'S
NOT IT.

IT'S
'CAUSE
GAILUS
IS MY
FRIEND.



I SEE...

BECAUSE
YOU'RE
FRIENDS,
HUH.

YEP.